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April 15, 2011

United States Courts
Outhern District of Texa
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**RE: Court Date- Galveston County Bankruptcy Court** 

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to notify you of the set court date of May <u>13</u>, 2011 in the Galveston County Bankruptcy court. I have filed bankruptcy (already discharged) and I am requesting forgiveness of my school loan debt based on the following:

- Income limitations: I am a school teacher who has been affected SEVERELY by the recent state education budget cuts. It is hard to make ends meet and support family off of my low salary and the fact that any extra income has been approved for dismissal.
- 2. Loss of Home: I have had to place my home under the bankruptcy and try to renegotiate terms for a home loan. I have been unsuccessful in my attempts and have limited financial ability to pay both student loans and mortgage/rent. Surrendering my home back to the institution that purchased the loan will also have a severely negative impact on me financially.
- 3. Inability to Repay Loan: I do not have the ability to repay the loan. You are asking me to pay over \$1500 per month and I realistically cannot do this off of a teacher's salary that is slowly dwindling away due to state and federal financial crisis and the way it is impacting the educational system.
- 4. Unfairness to Student Borrowers: There are various programs and institutions that are offering FREE tuition and FREE undergraduate and graduate programs due to the financial educational crisis. This option was not given to me at any point in time during my studies and need for loan.
- 5. Unsuccessful Attempts to Receive Loan Forgiveness: Over the course of my loan period, I attempted to receive the low income area teacher forgiveness from you AS WELL AS high need subject teacher forgiveness and you denied them all! I have always taught in low income districts and have taught in high need subject areas all of my career. You did not try to assist me in any way after so many attempts.
- 6. Threats and Harassing Phone Calls: Up until last year (during bankruptcy filing), Sallie Mae kept threatening me and calling my neighbors and family members. Sallie Mae even called my jobs threatening me to make the payments. It caused stress and embaressment to me and my family.
- 7. Time Periods of No Job or Poverty due to Tragedy: I have struggled to maintain a satisfactory financial standing due to Hurricane Ike. I was one of the victims affected and my job suffered from this tragedy. I had to take a very low income teaching position at 2 private schools. During that time, I fell so far behind and today I am still trying to play "catch up" financially.

My final request under Texas Bankruptcy Law is for a discharge under the following terms:

- 1) the debtor cannot maintain a minimal standard of living and also repay the loan;
- 2) the debtor's financial inability to repay the loan is likely to continue for a significant portion of the loan's repayment period; and
- 3) the debtor has made a good faith effort to repay the loan.

(ews)

Sincerely,

Ashley Lewis

341 Capella Oaks Lane

Dickinson, TX 77539

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